

## Obituary

### A. M. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. A. M. Jones, who practised in Llandudno, died suddenly at a London hotel on June 24. He was 72 years of age.

Arthur Maddock Jones was a native of Blaenau Ffestiniog, where his father, the late Dr. Richard Jones, was in practice for many years before moving to Llandudno. Educated at Epsom College, he was on a visit to his old school on the day he died. He was a medical student at Charing Cross Hospital and qualified in 1916, afterwards practising in Bala. He joined his father in the 1920's, and continued the practice in Llandudno after his father's death. He held many appointments in the area—to name but a few, medical officer to four convalescent homes, treasury medical officer, medical referee for the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, and police surgeon, and anaesthetist at Llandudno Hospital. He was chairman of the Caernarvonshire executive council, and of the local medical committee, and the county's representative on the Joint Association of Welsh Local Medical Committees. A past-president of the North Wales branch of the B.M.A., for many years he represented the Branch at the Annual Meetings of the Association. From 1949–60 he was a member of the Welsh Committee, and he was also a member of the Royal Commission Evidence Committee.

He saw active service in both world wars as a major in the R.A.M.C. (T.) and was awarded the Territorial Decoration. A keen sportsman, he was president of North Wales Golf Club, of the rugby club, and was interested in the local association football club. He was also a prominent freemason, being an officer of the Supreme Grand Chapter and an officer of the Province of North Wales.

Dr. Jones retired from general practice in January, 1960, but he was not the kind to sit back and rest on his laurels. He continued with his various committees, and was never so happy as when he was helping out with surgeries. His chief concern in life was the welfare of his patients, and he was so attached to them that he continued to visit them in a friendly capacity after his retirement. He had a wonderful capacity for work and never tired. Perhaps his greatest asset in life was that he knew the meaning of tolerance, and he had a grand sense of humour. To associate with him both socially and professionally was a pleasure. By his death Llandudno has lost a good friend and a conscientious doctor.

Dr. Jones's passing is a sad blow to his many friends and patients, and our deep sympathy is extended to his sister and brother-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Morris, of Portmadoc, and their two sons.—S. S.

### E. A. HAMILTON-PEARSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Dr. E. A. Hamilton-Pearson, consultant psychiatrist to the Children's Branch of the Home Office, and one of the original members of the staff of the Tavistock Clinic when it was established in 1920, died suddenly in Alderney on May 23.

C. S. writes: Edgar Alan Hamilton-Pearson was widely known and highly esteemed as a psychiatrist. An outline of his career shows his deep concern for the mental well-being of children and young people. It shows, also, another aspect of his personality—his great love of the sea. Soon after graduating in medicine at Aberdeen in 1912 he became a surgeon in the Chilean Navy, returning to serve from 1914 to 1918 in the R.A.M.C. in Gallipoli and France.

In 1920 he joined the staff of the newly instituted Tavistock Clinic, later becoming senior physician in the children's department of the clinic. On his retirement from this post in 1939 he went to sea again, serving during the second world war as a surgeon in the Merchant Navy.

From 1944 until his death he held an appointment with the Home Office as part-time medical officer. In addition to his psychiatric work in the children's department, he worked at the Latchmore House Borstal Institution, under the Prison Commission.

Both professionally and personally Dr. Hamilton-Pearson was held in the highest regard. In psychiatric interviews he was very quick to establish confidence in his young patients and to grasp the essentials of the child's personality and of his circumstances. He showed great skill in bringing about those changes in the child's environment most likely to encourage a better social adjustment and a happier development of personality. In this connexion he became closely associated with the Caldecott Community. He was also a much valued visitor to a number of other schools and "homes" for children needing special care. An independent thinker, he stood rather aloof from contemporary trends in psychological theory and practice. He was the author of *Food and Behaviour*, published in 1946.

A man of warm humanity, unassuming, courageous, wise, and with a great sense of humour, he will be remembered by very many with gratitude and affection.

### GIDEON MER, M.D.

Professor Gideon Mer, chief malaria adviser to the Ministry of Health of Israel, died on March 22 at the age of 67.

Gideon Mer was born in Russia in 1894 and studied in that country and in France, where he graduated in medicine. Settling in Palestine in 1914, he devoted himself to the control of malaria in connexion with the Jewish settlement programme. During the first world war he was a medical officer in the Jewish brigade in the British Army, and served in Gallipoli, Palestine, Syria, and Turkey. After the war he returned to Rosh Pina, a Jewish settlement in the north of Palestine, and his laboratory there eventually became a research station for the study of the bionomics of mosquitoes and methods of malaria control. With the opening of the Hebrew University he joined the department of preventive medicine.

During the second world war Dr. Mer served in the British Forces with the rank of colonel and was malaria adviser to Middle East Command. After the war he joined the staff of the new school of medicine and became chief malaria adviser to the Ministry of Health in Israel, of which he was acting director in 1956–7. As malaria was brought under control Professor Mer investigated the control of other insects, particularly the horse-fly, and the Rosh Pina research station undertook the testing of insecticides and the training of scientists.

The following appreciation of Professor Mer was published in "Malaria Information" (Document No. 71. 1961) of the World Health Organization: Professor Mer was one of the best-known representatives of the steadily decreasing company of "sweat and mud" malariologists with an intimate knowledge of all entomological problems related to the vector. His great contribution to the study of bionomics of the vector was the method described in the early nineteen-thirties of age-grouping of female *Anopheles* by the size of the ampulla of the ovary. The successful control of malaria in Israel and the present outstanding progress of the malaria eradication campaign in that country are due to Dr. Mer's initiative, experience, energy, and to the enthusiasm which he passed on to all those who had the good fortune of working with this wise, generous, and modest man.

### J. E. ROBSON, M.B., Ch.B., B.Com.

Dr. J. E. Robson, who practised for many years at Sale, Cheshire, died suddenly on April 19 at his home in Hexham, Northumberland. He was 66 years of age.

Joseph Edgar Robson was born at Whitley Bay on April 10, 1895, the son of a Newcastle upon Tyne business man.